

Daily Eagle

FIN'S DEVOTION!

A Story of War Times in Middle Tennessee.



When the civil war came, Fin refused to join the Confederate army, and when the conscript law demanded his service he refused to give it. He was thirty years old, lean as a fence rail and hard as a pine-knot; but he didn't care to fight, and wouldn't. The provost-marshal ordered him to be shot, but he was always absent when the messenger called. His wife did not know where he was. His daughter, a black-eyed girl of ten years, with hair 'shingled' like that of her baby brother, who stood silent and trembling by her side, was equally ignorant.

Fin cultivated his corn at night. He slept the hours of day away in an airy bed. To the limbs of a hickory tree he tied a blanket, and from this hammock he frequently looked down on the man-hunters as they rode beneath in search of their prey. His daughter carried food to him in the evening—his breakfast, to fortify him for the night's work.

One evening in early autumn she had finished this service and was returning home. "No use going to his house, for he aren't there, you know," said old Sniffles to the soldiers who were following him about. "I tell you I know where he is, but he won't let me see him. He's out there with his rifle. It's about feeding time now, and I'll bet he's there."

At a turn of the path they met the girl. "What'll you tell me?" exclaimed Sniffles, his mouth wide open in eager expectancy of the "news" in store. He was chewing tobacco, and the spittle tracing rivulets down each side of his frosty jaw met beneath his chin and flowed in a common stream to the ground.

"Well, sissy," said the Captain, a young fellow, with face as smooth as Sissy's and almost as fair, "I've got you!"

"I didn't know you wanted me," she replied, stopping short and holding her breath.

"I mean I know where your daddy hides, and I'm going to get him," said the Captain.

"Yes," Sniffles broke in, "we've treed the coon at last."

She answered with a look that caused the old fellow to wipe the tobacco juice from his chin—an unusual act for him.

"You'll fetch him by the ears, won't you do that?" she asked, addressing the Captain.

"Yes, sissy."

"Can I go on home?"

"Y—"

"Don't let 'em go," interposed Sniffles. "They give 'em all kinder warnin's by blowin' 'em or horn."

"I'll lead the way, then," said sissy, turning about and walking ahead.

They had scarcely gone more than fifty yards when the girl stopped quickly behind a big red elm, and peering up the leaves of her horn that lay hidden under a hawthorn, blew a loud, shrill blast. The branches of a distant tree shook, the leaves rustled, and a man glided down its trunk and disappeared.

"You confounded little rascal!" shouted Sniffles, and he slapped her face with his open hand, which was as wide and as hard as a board.

"You infernal old heathen!" replied the Captain, with a blow that sent Sniffles rolling down hill till a falling log stopped him.

"All right, Cap'n," he whined, "the jig's up. She gave the signal, I'll bet on it, an' Fin Crowmover's boyant the sarch ty the devil himself."

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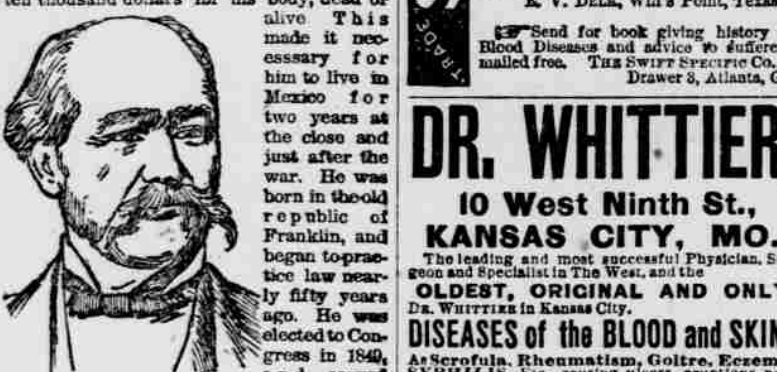
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Senator Harris. For the third time Governor Harris, of Tennessee, has been elected to the Senate. He is the same Isham G. Harris upon whose head Parson Brownlow put a price, offering ten thousand dollars for his body, dead or alive. This made it necessary for him to live in Mexico for two years as the close and just after the war. He was born in the old republic of Franklin, and began to practice law when he was nearly fifty years ago. He was elected to Congress in 1849, and served two terms, declining a nomination for a third. For six years he was Governor of Tennessee. He is one of the best parliamentarians in the Senate, and is very often called to the chair. Governor Harris is a great stickler for forms, and corresponds on the Democratic side of the chamber to Senator Edmunds on the Republican side. He is of the old school, courtly, gracious and affable.



The Late Isaac Bell. The late Isaac Bell, ex-United States Minister to the Netherlands, lost his life by participating in a campaign parade. He was born in New York City, his father, Isaac Bell, making his home there after a political and business career of prominence in Alabama. The senior Bell was a member of the commission that investigated the Tweed ring. Isaac Bell married the daughter of James Gordon Bennett, after whom the Jeannette of Arctic fame was named. Mr. Bell graduated from Harvard in 1866, spent several years in travel, and after his marriage made his home at Newport, R. I. President Cleveland appointed him Minister to the Netherlands, and he made a treaty with that country regulating the entry of Sumatra tobacco into this country. He was a Presidential elector and could not vote in the Electoral College on account of his illness. He was a member of a number of prominent clubs.

A Lack of Business Sense. Candid friend (to young author)—Your story is a good one, I admit, Edgar; but you never make much money out of it without considerable alterations.

Edgar—Why, what's wrong?

Candid friend—You should have your hero dine at Tipton's, wear only the clothes made by Schreier, take a box at Howard's Theater, and drink exclusively the wines imported by Rudolph. Always use the names that will bring you money, my boy—Judge.

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